

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as is shown below. The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An accumulator comprising:

a body having ~~a~~an empty space therein;

~~an inlet tube inserted~~ extending downwardly into the ~~inside of the~~ body from a top thereof of the body and including an end positioned at an inner lower portion of the body, downwardly, for an inflow of such that a liquid phase refrigerant flows into to the ~~inside of the~~ body;

~~an outlet tube inserted~~ extending upwardly into the ~~inside of the~~ body from a bottom thereof of the body and including an end positioned at an inner upper portion of the body, upwardly, for a discharge of such that the refrigerant is discharged from to the ~~outside of the~~ body; and

an isolating plate provided on an inner bottom of the body between the inlet tube and the outlet tube, ~~for preventing the outlet tube from being splashed with the liquid phase refrigerant, and preventing~~ and positioned such that the liquid phase refrigerant is prevented from flowing into the outlet tube.

2. (Currently Amended) The accumulator of claim 1, wherein each side of the isolating plate ~~is in contact to~~ contacts an inner surface of the body.

3. (Currently Amended) The accumulator of claim 1, wherein each side of the isolating plate is spaced by ~~provided at~~ a predetermined interval, from an inner surface of the body.

4. (Currently Amended) The accumulator of claim 1, further comprising:
_____at least one heater provided on the inner bottom of the body, for heating the refrigerant ~~stored in the inside of the body.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The accumulator of claim 4, wherein ~~an~~the inner lower portion of the body is divided into a plurality of blocks, and the heater and the inlet tube ~~are is provided in the same block as that having the inlet tube.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The accumulator of claim 1, wherein the isolating plate divides the ~~an~~ inner lower portion of the body into two blocks.

7. (Currently Amended) The accumulator of claim 1, wherein the isolating plate divides ~~an~~the inner lower portion of the body into a plurality of blocks.

8. (Currently Amended) The accumulator of claim 7, further comprising:
_____a plurality of heaters provided on each block of the inner bottom of the body.

9. (Currently Amended) An air conditioning system comprising:
at least one compressor ~~for compressing that compresses a gas phase~~ refrigerant at a high pressure[[,]] and that discharges ~~discharging the compressed~~ refrigerant;

a flow ~~flowing~~ control valve connected to the compressor, for controlling a flow ~~flowing~~ direction of the refrigerant according to an operation mode;

a plurality of heat exchangers, ~~for being~~ respectively positioned indoor and outdoor, and connected to the flow ~~flowing~~ control valve;

at least one expansion device provided in a refrigerant tube that directly connects ~~connecting~~ the heat exchangers; and

an accumulator that temporarily stores ~~storing~~ the refrigerant passing through the heat exchangers, and that is connected to an inlet of the compressor such that ~~for providing the gas phase refrigerant is provided~~ to the compressor, ~~[[;]]~~ said accumulator comprising:

~~wherein, the accumulator includes:~~

a body having a ~~an empty~~ space therein;

an inlet tube connected to the flow ~~flowing~~ control valve, and said inlet tube extending downwardly ~~inserted into the inside of the body from a top thereof, downwardly of the body and including an end positioned at an inner lower portion of the body;~~

an outlet tube connected to the compressor, and said outlet tube extending upwardly ~~inserted into the inside of the body from a bottom thereof, upwardly of the body and including an end positioned at an inner upper portion of the body;~~ and

an isolating plate provided on an inner bottom of the body between the inlet tube and the outlet tube, and positioned such that, ~~for preventing the outlet tube from being splashed with the liquid phase refrigerant, and preventing the liquid phase refrigerant from~~ is prevented from splashing and flowing into the outlet tube.

10. (Currently Amended) The air conditioning system of claim 9, further comprising:

_____ a plurality of check valves, each provided between the outlet of one of the at least one compressors ~~each compressor~~ and the flow ~~flowing~~ control valve, ~~for preventing such that the refrigerant is prevented~~ from flowing into the outlet of the compressor.

11. (Currently Amended) The air conditioning system of claim 9, wherein each of the compressors has a different capacity.

12. (Currently Amended) The air conditioning system of claim 9, wherein each side of the isolating plate ~~is in contact to~~ contacts an inner surface of the body.

13. (Currently Amended) The air conditioning system of claim 9, wherein each side of the isolating plate is ~~provided at~~ spaced by a predetermined interval, from an inner surface of the body.

14. (Currently Amended) The air conditioning system of claim 9, further comprising:

_____ at least one heater provided on the inner bottom of the body, for heating the refrigerant stored in the ~~inside of the body~~.

15. (Currently Amended) The air conditioning system of claim 14, wherein an inner lower portion of the body is divided into a plurality of blocks, and the heater and the inlet tube are ~~is provided in the same block as that having the inlet tube~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The air conditioning system of claim 9, wherein the isolating plate divides ~~an~~ the inner lower portion of the body into two blocks.

17. (Currently Amended) The air conditioning system of claim 9, wherein the isolating plate divides ~~an~~ the inner lower portion of the body into a plurality of blocks.

18. (Currently Amended) The air conditioning system of claim 17, further comprising:

_____ a plurality of heaters provided on each block of the inner bottom of the body.

19. (New) An air conditioning system comprising:

a compressor that compresses and pumps refrigerant;

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an indoor heat exchanger that communicates with the compressor and conducts a heat exchange between the refrigerant and indoor air;

an outdoor heat exchanger that communicates with the compressor and conducts a heat exchange between the refrigerant and outdoor air; and

an accumulator that communicates with the compressor and heat exchangers, said accumulator comprising:

a body having a space therein;

an inlet tube extending into the body through a top of the body, said inlet tube introducing refrigerant into the space and including an end positioned at an inner lower portion of the body;

an outlet tube extending into the body through a bottom of the body, said outlet tube exhausting a gas phase refrigerant in the space and including an end positioned at an inner upper portion of the body; and

an isolating plate provided on the bottom of the body between the inlet tube and the outlet tube, said isolating plate preventing a liquid phase refrigerant from flowing into the outlet tube.

20. (New) The accumulator as claimed in claim 19, wherein the end of the outlet tube is positioned higher than the end of the inlet tube so as to prevent a liquid phase refrigerant introduced into the body through the inlet tube from flowing into the outlet tube directly.

21. (New) The accumulator as claimed in claim 19, further comprising:

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a heater provided on the bottom of the body between the isolating plate and an inner surface of the body, said heater heating a liquid phase refrigerant on the bottom of the body between the isolating plate and an inner surface of the body.